Honolulu, Hawaii

February 4, 2014

RE: H.B. No. 2127 H.D. 1

Honorable Joseph M. Souki Speaker, House of Representatives Twenty-Seventh State Legislature Regular Session of 2014 State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Economic Development & Business, to which was referred H.B. No. 2127 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE PUBLIC-PRIVATE FINANCE INITIATIVE,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to assist the State with addressing economic challenges faced when developing infrastructure to meet growing demands for public service by establishing the Public-Private Finance Initiative. The initiative would identify suitable infrastructure projects, carry out appropriate analyses, enter into public-private agreements, and provide leadership for the facilitation of financing, improvement, or enhancement of appropriate facilities, operations, and property.

In addition, this bill:

- (1) Requires the Initiative to initiate a pilot project on specific State lands in Wahiawa (Pilot Project);
- (2) Requires the Initiative to submit a report on the status of the Pilot Project;
- (3) Prohibits the Initiative from planning or implementing any other projects other than the Pilot Project in Wahiawa; and

(4) Appropriates \$500,000 for the establishment and operations of the Initiative, including the hiring of staff.

The Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism, and Department of Accounting and General Services testified in support of this measure. Hawaii's Thousand Friends and several concerned individuals testified in opposition to this measure.

An increasing need for public services, due in part to an increasing population, has put pressure on revenue resources for all levels of government. This was evident during the recent economic downturn faced by Hawaii and the rest of the nation. As a result, the State faces the challenge of balancing its budget while addressing escalating infrastructure and service needs. Creating a partnership agency to collaborate with all state agencies and private sector entities may help deliver these services and facilities more effectively, efficiently, and in a manner that is cost beneficial to the State. As such, this initiative deserves further consideration.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the \$500,000 appropriation for the establishment and operations of the Initiative to an unspecified sum;
- (2) Changing its effective date to January 20, 2050, to facilitate further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for clarity, consistency, and style.

Should the Committee on Finance deliberate on this measure, your Committee on Economic Development & Business respectfully requests that it consider appropriating \$500,000 for fiscal year 2014-2015 for the establishment and operations of the Initiative, including the hiring of staff.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Economic Development & Business that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 2127, as amended herein, and recommends that

it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 2127, H.D. 1, and be referred to the Committee on Water & Land.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the members of the Committee on Economic Development & Business,

CLIFT TSUJI, Chair

State of Hawaii House of Representatives The Twenty-seventh Legislature

Record of Votes of the Committee on Economic Development & Business

Bill/Resolution No.:		Committee Referral: Date:				
HB 2127 EDB, WAL, FIN 1131114						
The recommendation is to: Pass, unamended (as is) Pass, with amendments (HD) Hold						
Pass short form bill with HD to recommit for future public hearing (recommit)						
EDB Members		Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused	
1. TSUJI, Clift (C)		//				
2. WARD, Gene (VC)		V				
3. AWANA, Karen						
4. BROWER, Tom		12				
5. CACHOLA, Romy M.	· ·	1.				
6. ITO, Ken						
7. CHOY, Isaac W.						
8. OHNO, Takashi		1/				
9. ONISHI, Richard H.K.						
10. TOKIOKA, James Kunane						
11. WOOLEY, Jessica						
		<i>y</i> .				
TOTAL (11)		[0]			V	
The recommendation is: Adopted If joint referral, did not support recommendation.						
If joint referral, did not support recommendation.						
Vice Chair's or designee's signature:						
Distribution: Original (White) - Committee Duplicate (Yellow) - Chief Clerk's Office Duplicate (Pink) - HMSO						